

SECTION III—REMARKS

This amendment is submitted in response to the Office Action mailed June 3, 2005. Claims 16-19 and 22 are canceled, and claims 1-4 and 7 remain pending in the application. Applicants respectfully request allowance of the application in view of the above amendments and the following remarks.

Allowed Claims

The Examiner indicated that claims 1-4 and 7 were allowed. None of these claims is amended herein, so they continue to be allowed.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

The Examiner rejected claims 16-19 and 22 under 35 U.S.C § 103(a) as obvious in view of, and therefore unpatentable over, the English translation of Japanese Patent Application No. 09-080246 to Hori *et al.* (“Hori”). Applicants respectfully submit that the Examiner’s rejections are rendered moot by the cancellation of these claims.

Conclusion

Given the above amendments and accompanying remarks, all claims pending in the application are in condition for allowance. If the undersigned attorney has overlooked a teaching in any of the cited references that is relevant to allowance of the claims, the Examiner is requested to specifically point out where such teaching may be found. Further, if there are any informalities or questions that can be addressed via telephone, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned attorney at (206) 292-8600.


Charge Deposit Account

Please charge our Deposit Account No. 02-2666 for any additional fee(s) that may be due in this matter, and please credit the same deposit account for any overpayment.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: 9-2-05


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